

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/870,482

REMARKS

Claims 4, 11-15, and 17-22 are all the claims pending in the application.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication at Section Nos. 7 and 8 (page 6) of the Office Action mailed June 3, 2004, that original Claim 20 contains allowable subject matter. Applicants have rewritten Claim 20 as an independent claim. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request an indication that Claim 20 is allowed.

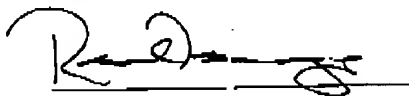
Applicants have also amended Claim 18 in order to correct a typographical error therein.

No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



L. Raul Tamayo
Registration No. 47,125

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facs.mile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 5, 2005